

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 058611

TOSEC 566

FOLLOWING REPEAT USNATO 1435 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO ALL NATO
CAPS EC BRUSSELS DUBLIN GENEVA MOSCOW

DTD 14 MAR 75

QUOTE:

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 1435

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO, CSCE

SUBJ: UK AND DUTCH PROPOSE NATO CONSULTATION ON BREZHNEV CSCE

DEADLINE

DEPARTMENT PASS SECRETARY'S PARTY

GENEVA FOR USDEL CSCE

SUMMARY: ON MARCH 14, BRITISH AND NETHERLANDS NATO DELS
PROPOSED ALLIANCE CONSULTATION ON BREZHNEV LETTER TO SELECTED
ALLIES PROPOSING JUNE 30 AS TARGET DEADLINE FOR HELINSIKI CSCE
SUMMIT. BRITISH PROPOSAL CALLS FOR CONSULTATION IN COUNCIL

MARCH 17. REQUEST GUIDANCE. END SUMMARY:.

1. ON MARCH 14, UK DCM (LOGAN) CALLED CHARGE TO ADVISE US THAT
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UK NATO DELEGATION WAS CALLING FOR MARCH 17 CONSULTATIONS IN NAC

ON RESPONSE RECIPIENTS SHOULD MAKE TO LETTER THEY RECEIVED FROM BREZHNEV ABOUT CSCE SUMMIT TIMING. IN ADDITION TO U.S., LOGAN SAID HE WAS ALSO GIVING ADVANCE NOTICE TO GERMAN, ITALIAN AND FRENCH DELEGATIONS IN MAKING PROPOSAL, UK WAS NOT SUGGESTING DETAILED COORDINATION OF THE SEVERAL RESPONSES TO BREZHNEV, BUT WISHED TO DEVELOP AGREEMENT ON GENERAL LINE TO BE TAKEN ON SPECIFIC ISSUES RAISED BY BREZHNEV.

2. IN A PARALLEL EFFORT WHICH PRECEDED THE LOGAN-MC-AULIFFE TELEPHONE CONVERSATION, NETHERLANDS REP (HORAK) AT MARCH 14 POLADS MEETING ON SUEZ SAID HIS GOVERNMENT HAD LEARNED OF BREZHNEV'S LETTERS ON CSCE TO PRESIDENT FORD AND GISCARD D'ESTAING, PRIME MINISTERS MORO AND WILSON, AND CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT. DUTCH WISHED TO MAKE FOLLOWING POINTS TO THE ALLIES: THE HAGUE FEELS THAT IF THESE LETTERS DO INDEED PROPOSE JUNE 30 FOR CSCE STAGE III, PHASE II WOULD HAVE TO BE COMPLETED AROUND MAY 30. IF THIS IS THE CASE, BREZHNEV IS IN EFFECT SETTING DEADLINES FOR BOTH PHASES OF CSCE AND DUTCH BELIEVE "THIS IS A MATTER FOR CONSULTATION AMONG THE ALLIES AS IT IS OF INTEREST TO US ALL.". DUTCH REP WISHED TO ASSURE ALLIED RECIPIENTS OF BREZHNEV LETTER THAT HIS GOVERNMENT WAS NOT SUGGESTING CONSULTATION ON THE DETAILS OF RESPONSES TO THE BREZHNEV LETTERS. THIS IS A MATTER FOR EACH ADDRESSEE TO DETERMINE. RATHER, THE PROPOSED CONSULTATION WOULD CONCERN "THE FACT THAT BREZHNEV IS ASKING FOR A DEADLINE." THE DUTCH REP SAID HIS AMBASSADOR WOULD RAISE THIS MATTER AT PERMRESP LUNCH ON TUESDAY, MARCH 18, AND WOULD MAKE A FORMAL PROPOSAL TO THE COUNCIL AT THE NAC SCHEDULED FOR WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19. SECONDLY, NETHERLANDS REP WISHED TO ASK WHETHER ANY ALLIES OTHER THAN THE FIVE HE HAD MENTIONED HAD RECEIVED SUCH A LETTER FROM THE SOVIETS.

3. BELGIAN REP (BOUCKAERT) SAID HE HAD LEARNED OF THE LETTERS ONLY MORNING OF MARCH 14 AND HIS INFORMATION INDICATED ONLY FRANCE, ITALY, FRG AND UK AMONG THE EC-9 HAD ALSO RECEIVED THEM. HE WISHED TO POINT OUT TO HIS DUTCH COLLEAGUE, HOWEVER, THAT FRANCE, ITALY, THE UK AND FRG WERE ALREADY CONSULTING WITH THEIR EC COLLEAGUES ON HOW TO RESPOND TO BREZHNEV'S LETTER. NETHERLANDS REP REPEATED HE WAS AWARE OF EC-9 CONSULTATIONS BUT HE WISHED TO STRESS THE NEED FOR CONSULTATIONS ON THIS MATTER AMONG THE FIFTEEN.

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4. U.S. REP (LEDOGAR) THANKED DUTCH REP FOR HIS COURTESY, IN GIVING ALLIES ADVANCE NOTICE OF THE INITIATIVE HIS PERMREP WILL TAKE NEXT WEEK AND INQUIRED WHETHER DUTCH REP HAD ANY MORE DETAILS ON THE SORT OF CONSULTATION HIS GOVERNMENT HAD IN MIND. PARTICULARLY, DID THE DUTCH PLAN TO INVOLVE THE NATO CAUCUS IN GENEVA IN THESE CONSULTATIONS AND, IF SO, HOW. NETHERLANDS REP SAID HE HAD NO MORE SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS, BUT HE FELT

OBVIOUSLY THE SUBJECT OF ONGOING WORK IN GENEVA AND HOW MUCH TIME IT IS LIKELY TO TAKE MUST BE ADDRESSED IN ANY DISCUSSION OF THE SOVIET PROPOSED DEAD-LINE.

5. GREEK REP (MALLIKOURTIS) ALSO THANKED THE NETHERLANDS REP FOR HIS PROPOSAL AND STATED HE WOULD HAVE HOPED THE INFORMATION ABOUT THE BREZHNEV LETTERS AND THE PROPOSAL FOR CONSULTATIONS MIGHT HAVE BEEN BROACHED BY ONE OF THE ALLIES WHICH HAD RECEIVED THE LETTER.

6. COMMENT: MISSION ASSUMES MARCH 17 CONSULTATIONS SUGGESTED BY U.K. WILL PRE-EMPT MORE LEISURELY SCHEDULE SUGGESTED BY DUTCH. IF, AS OUR ALLIES SEEM TO BELIEVE, U.S. ALSO RECEIVED BREZHNEV LETTER, MISSION WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING TEXT AND GUIDANCE ON HOW AT MARCH 17 NAC WE SHOULD DEAL BOTH WITH THE LETTER ITSELF AND WITH COORDINATION OF A RESPONSE TO IT. REQUEST GUIDANCE. BRUCE UNQUOTE
INGERSOLL

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